

SDMA Safeguarding Policy

1. SDMA acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club activity.

2. The key principles of The SDMA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, faith or belief
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who trains with us should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. SDMA recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our club.

3. SDMA has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. This applies to anyone involved in SDMA whether they are in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are an instructor, assistant instructor, coach, tournament official or a grading examiner.

4. Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust within SDMA can 'whistle blow' by using the following contact details:

admin@sdma-dorset.co.uk

DSL: Andrew West - 07359009511

DDSL: Sam Donohoo - 07388342625

SDMA instructors and DSL/DDSL may choose to seek advice via the children's advice and duty service (CHAD) or alternatively may advise you to go direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC. Any concerns seen or raised will be documented securely.

5. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all students or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the Club instructor immediately and they will ensure all parents/carers involved are aware of what has happened and the consequences of those actions.

6. The SDMA code of conduct needs to be followed by students, parents, spectators and anyone else that may be involved with SDMA. Failure to follow the code of conduct will result in actions being taken against the party in question. Frequent reminders will be given as and when required but disregarding the code of conduct will not be tolerated.

7. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option.

-If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the Club DSL or the class instructor.

-If the issue is one of poor practice the DSL/instructor with either deal with the matter themselves or seek advice from CHAD or other sources. If the concern is more serious (eg physical abuse) where possible, contact the DSL/instructor first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Social Care.

-If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let your DSL/instructor know what action you have taken.

-If at any time you are not able to contact your Club DSL/instructor or the matter is clearly serious then you can either:

-contact the Police or Children's Social Care
-call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk

Safeguarding policy statement

Note: The terms 'child', 'children' and 'young person' describe any person under the age of 18.

Our statement

Our organisation acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

The policy recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, all children:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience at SDMA in a safe and child-centred environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating in Taekwon-Do or outside of the activity.

We acknowledge that some children, including deaf and disabled children or those from Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and we accept the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

Our policy

What we'll do

As part of our safeguarding policy we will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- value, listen to and respect children
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements are in operation
- ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of all incidents or concerns, from lower-level concerns and poor practice to more serious abuse,
- provide support to the individual(s) who raise or report the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely.
- appoint a nominated safeguarding lead and a deputy for children and young people
- develop and implement an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents via leaflets, posters, websites and one-to-one discussions
- make sure that children, young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in SDMA. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

This policy was last reviewed on **23rd January 2025**